

We have no right to do that. There is a statement here that is appropriate in that direction though in this case it has a little different angle. It is where James said, Submit yourselves then to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you." We resist the devil and we can be ~~defeated~~. No one of us in our own strength can overcome him ~~defeated~~.

But if we take the whole verse: Submit yourselves to God; resist the devil and he will flee from you. In the power of God we can vanquish all the fiery darts of Satan. In the power of God we can resist all his attacks. In the power of God we can keep from being led astray by his wiles and deceit. But it is only as we submit ourselves to God and do not trust in our own strength.

Even the archangel Michael when disputing with ~~Satan~~ Satan did not dare to bring a direct rebuke against Satan but said, The Lord rebuke thee. It is only in the power of God ~~that~~ that anyone of us can resist the attacks of Satan.

We cannot say it is Satan's fault that we go astray. Satan does all he possibly can to make us go astray, but as James said, When tempted no one of us can say, God is tempting me for God cannot be ~~tempted~~ tempted by evil nor does He tempt anyone. But each one is tempted of his own evil desires. He is dragged away and enticed. We can't put the blame on God when we make mistakes. But neither can we put it on Satan. God may permit us to fall. He may allow us to fall into something we should not be in because of our pride. Because of our confidence in our own power of resistance. Because of our thought that we ourselves amount to more than we do. God may permit us to fall.

But we do not fall unless we are enticed by our own evil desires, by our own weakness. Satan is constantly going to try to lead us astray. He will constantly try to make us fall. He will not only constantly try to lead us into error, he will constantly try to discourage us when we are falsely attacked, or when things don't go right, or when for some reason we feel the ~~world~~ world is topsy-turvy and we are not being treated as we should. Satan tries to lead us astray.

But we cannot blame him because it is our own fault. It is our own failure to keep our eyes on the Lord when we are led astray. Oh the devil is full of wiles, he is full of clever ideas and he is ready to send his fiery darts and to endeavor to destroy all that is ~~xxx~~ true and good in the world. But God is stronger than Satan. God is more powerful. God permits Satan to exist for God's own purposes for God's purposes are all good even though we may not be able to understand what they are and why they work out (seemingly) in Satan's favor.

So ~~no~~ one of us knows ^W what is ahead. No one of us knows what fiery darts we ~~may~~ may have to meet. No one of us knows what clever wiles, what clever devices he may use to lead to astray. But this we know that Jesus Christ gave His life for us on Calvary's cross, that whosoever believeth on Him should not perish but have eternal life.